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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 6, 2018, at 12 p.m.

Senate

Wednesday, December 5, 2018

The Senate met at 2:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable Tom COTTON, a Senator from the State of Arkansas.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's opening prayer will be offered by Pastor Louie Giglio, of Passion City Church, from Atlanta, GA.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let's pray together.

Father, we pause today to lift our eyes to Heaven, the place our help comes from.

And we bow to honor You and to worship You for who You are.

We recognize that You are here and that we are here because of Your sovereign will. So, may this Chamber know the wind of Heaven today as it seeks the common good for those it serves

We ask that Your supernatural discernment, courage, and unity rest on this Senate so that Your Kingdom may come and Your will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven.

Father, I lift each Member of this esteemed Chamber to You. Please touch them and their families with Your love and grace and surround them with the angel armies of Heaven.

We celebrate the life and the legacy of President George Herbert Walker Bush. We lift his family and those who loved him to You, knowing that You are the God of all comfort. And we ask that You guide us today as we seek to take our place among the thousand points of light.

Especially in this season, we thank You for the gift of Your Son, the Prince of Peace, and we commit this day to You for the sake of Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President protempore (Mr. HATCH).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, December 5, 2018.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable Tom COTTON, a Senator from the State of Arkansas, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ORRIN G. HATCH, President pro tempore.

Mr. COTTON thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore. The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Tennessee.

WELCOMING PASTOR LOUIE GIGLIO

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, it is an honor to be here with Pastor Louie Giglio, from Atlanta, who pastors the Passion Church there.

I think everyone in this body knows Congress led on an issue to end modern slavery around the world. That was something that passed this body a couple of years ago. The appropriators have funded it. We are well on our way leading the world today in trying to end modern slavery, where today we have 27 million people around the world in slavery—more than at any time in the world's history. I can honestly say the genesis of that, the seed for that, the beginning of that, started at Passion Church, where he led an effort to make sure people are aware of this scourge on mankind. I am grateful to him. Millions of people around the world will be grateful to him and his congregation. I am honored to know him and be his friend, and I thank him for his leadership in that regard but also beginning our day in this way. Thank you so much.

With that, I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

REMEMBERING GEORGE H.W. BUSH

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, earlier today, our 41st President George Herbert Walker Bush departed the Capitol Rotunda and was memorialized at the National Cathedral. Now his remains are on the way back to Houston for a funeral service at St. Martin's Episcopal Church before he is laid to

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

